

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 569

By Lollar

A RESOLUTION to recognize Sophie Theodore on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have dedicated their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Sophie Theodore is one such estimable educator who has served with distinction for an astounding forty-five years with Shelby County Schools; she will take a much deserved retirement at the end of the 2006-2007 school year; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Theodore served with acumen and alacrity as a seventh through twelfth grade English teacher for fifteen exemplary years and as a counselor for five years; in addition, she lent her astute leadership skills as a supervisor of instruction for five years and as a vice principal at Kirby High School and Bartlett High School for a combined twenty-two years; and

WHEREAS, a Central High School graduate, Sophie Theodore attended Rhodes College for two years and received her bachelor's degree from the University of Memphis, where she also received three master's degrees in English, Guidance, and Administration/Supervision; and

WHEREAS, Sophie Theodore is an extremely talented and compassionate educator and administrator who has worked assiduously to motive her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, she had one of her most memorable teaching experiences in 1968, when one of her students, who she had tutored for months, won first place in the Memphis City-Shelby County Spelling Bee; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Theodore truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel is highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, she exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, she has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues and students alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Ms. Sophie Theodore our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, commend her outstanding commitment to the education of Tennessee's youth, and wish her every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.